

Gen. Joe Wheeler Residence
Wheeler, Alabama

Laurens Co.

ALA
HABS No. ~~18~~-347

HABS
ALA
40-WHEL
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Ala. Polytechnic Inst., Auburn, Ala.

Project #^{ALA}26-347
GENERAL JOSEPH WHEELER RESIDENCE
Wheeler Station, Alabama

HABS
ALA.
40-WHEL
1

HISTORICAL DATA:

Built in 1818.

Ownership:

John P. Hickman, original owner.

F. A. M. Sherod, second owner.

Richard Jones, third owner.

General Joseph Wheeler, fourth owner.

The Children of General Joseph Wheeler are the present owners.

Present Occupants:

Miss Annie Wheeler and sometimes Colonel Joe Wheeler, Jr., the children of General Wheeler.

Alterations and Additions:

The original house built in 1818 had six rooms. About 1880, ten more rooms were added.

General Joseph Wheeler:

Born in 1836. Came to Alabama from Georgia. Bought this house soon after the War Between the States.

Graduated from West Point in 1859. Was an officer in the United States army at outbreak of War. Sided with his State. Was made a Lieutenant-General at the age of twenty-nine.

Served with the United States army in the Spanish American War.

Was not only a great soldier, but was greatly beloved by all with whom he came in contact.

Many beautiful portraits of the General hang in this home of his today.

Project # ^{ALA} ~~33~~-347
GENERAL JOSEPH WHEELER RESIDENCE
Wheeler Station, Alabama

Grounds:

This home is set well back in a beautiful grove of majestic oak trees interspersed with dog wood and red bud trees, covering a hundred acres. A white fence extends a half mile along the Highway in front of this grove.

Beside the entrance, which is a white gate way with pergola effect covered with pink roses and wistaria, is a granite boulder, placed there by the school children and P. T. A. of Lawrence Co.; bearing the following inscription:

"Home of General Joseph Wheeler
The record of his service shines in letters of living light on the annals of his country's history."

The grove surrounding this home not only has oaks, dog wood and red bud trees, but here we find much Japanese cherry, crepe myrtle and evergreen trees.

Not far from the home is a large spring inclosed by a stone wall a hundred and fifty feet in diameter. The hillside of the natural basin surrounding this spring has been developed into an enormous rock garden, with rustic bridges crossing the gullies and stone seats under the many beautiful oak trees. Among the rocks are thousands of yellow bulbs, lavender iris, mertensia, white spider lilies, violets, besides much wild honeysuckle, laurel, wistaria and pink roses.

Nearer the house we find nandinas, forsythia, wygelia, snow balls, and all sorts of evergreen shrubs. Through a small front gate one approaches the house between two rows of Boxwood. The veranda is covered with vines.

Source of Material:

Miss Annie Wheeler, daughter of General Wheeler, lives in this home at Wheeler Station, Alabama.

Mrs. M. I. Hoskins, Life Honorary President of the "Wheeler Memorial Association", Wheeler, Ala.

Reviewed 936-H.C.F.

Project #^{ALA}~~16~~-347
GENERAL JOE WHEELER RESIDENCE
Wheeler, Alabama

ARCHITECTURAL MERIT AND DATA:

This early home of General Joe Wheeler is not a very pretentious type, in fact, it is quite ordinary. It is to be regretted that the second story column treatment has been screened in, thus rendering the building less attractive ~~still~~.

The interior is quite average. The main stair is quite bold. The rear servants' stair, however, has a distinct charm of its own, as the photograph of same clearly shows.

**DATA NOT COMPILED AND NOT GUARANTEED
BY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

Source of Material:

E. Walter Burkhardt, HABS, District Administrator,
Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Alabama.

Reviewed 1936 - H.C.F.